

Tooling Techniques Enhance Medical Imaging



Goddard Space Flight Center

***Mikro Systems Inc.
Charlottesville, Virginia***

NASA Technology

- ◆ The causes of solar flares—which pose a danger to spacecraft and can disrupt life on Earth—remain largely mysterious
- ◆ NASA funded the development of a device to capture high-resolution X-ray and gamma-ray images of eruptions



Partnership

- ◆ Through Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) contracts, Mikro Systems innovated the manufacturing process of fine, complex tungsten grids
- ◆ Using the technology, NASA has captured about 50,000 images of solar flares for analysis

Benefits

- ◆ The company commercialized the technology in multiple markets, including medical devices, security scanners, and turbine-engine blades
- ◆ Process lowers material costs by 96 percent and reduces production time by 90 percent
- ◆ By developing this technology, Mikro has created more than 35 jobs